

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2, 13, and 14 and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular coupling comprising:  
a threaded male portion; and  
a corresponding threaded female portion,  
the threaded portions featuring thread profiles configured such that the coupling may be made up to a predetermined extent, and once made up to said predetermined extent may be made up no further, each threaded portion comprising:  
a first part having a first thread profile, and  
a second part having a second thread profile, the first thread profile having  
a different shape than the second thread profile.
2. (Canceled) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein each thread portion comprises first and second parts having different thread profiles.
3. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the male portion has a leading part with a thread profile corresponding to a thread profile of a trailing part of the female portion.
4. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the male portion has a trailing part with a thread profile corresponding to a thread profile of a leading part of the female portion.
5. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 4, wherein the thread profiles are configured such that the thread portions may be made up until the start of the thread profile on the trailing part of the male portion encounters the start of ~~the~~ a different thread profile on the trailing part of the female portion.

6. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 5, wherein the change in thread profiles between the leading part of the female portion and the trailing part of the female portion is abrupt.
7. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 5, wherein the change in thread profiles between the leading part of the female portion and the trailing part of the female portion is gradual.
8. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 5, wherein the change in thread profiles between the leading part of the female portion and the trailing part of the female portion is incremental.
9. (Original) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thread profiles are a combination of a square thread profile and a dovetail thread profile.
10. (Original) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 9, wherein the square profile is provided on a leading part of the male portion and the dovetail profile is provided on a trailing part of the male portion.
11. (Original) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 9, wherein the square profile is provided on a trailing part of the female portion and the dovetail profile is provided on a leading part of the female portion.
12. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 11, wherein a square profile on a leading part of the male portion is adapted to mate with the dovetail profile on the leading part of the female portion.
13. (Canceled) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 11, wherein a dovetail profile on a trailing part of the male portion is configured so as not to mate with the square profile on the trailing part of the female portion.

14. (Canceled) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thread profiles are a combination of similar form but differently dimensioned thread profiles.

15. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 441, wherein the first thread profiles ~~are~~ is square thread profiles.

16. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 441, wherein the first thread profiles ~~are~~ is dovetail-shaped profiles.

17. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 441, wherein a smaller thread profile is provided on a leading part of the male portion and is adapted to mate with a similarly dimensioned thread profile provided on a trailing part of the female portion.

18. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 441, wherein a larger dimensioned thread profile is provided on a trailing part of the male portion and a leading part of the female portion, which larger dimensioned thread profiles are engageable with each other but are not engageable with smaller thread profiles provided on a leading part of the male portion and a trailing part of the female portion, respectively.

19. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 441, wherein a transition between the ~~different dimensioned~~ first and second thread profiles is abrupt.

20. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 441, wherein a transition between the ~~different dimensioned~~ first and second thread profiles is gradual.

21. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 141, wherein a transition between the ~~different dimensioned~~first and second thread profiles is incremental.

22. (Original) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thread profiles are parallel.

23. (Original) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thread profiles are tapered.

24. (Original) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thread profiles are left hand.

25. (Original) An expandable tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thread profiles are right hand.

26-29. (Canceled)

Please add the following new claims:

30. (New) An expandable tubular coupling comprising:

a threaded male portion; and

a corresponding threaded female portion,

the threaded portions featuring thread profiles configured such that the coupling may be made up to a predetermined extent, and once made up to said predetermined extent may be made up no further, wherein:

the thread profiles are a combination of a square thread profile and a dovetail thread profile;

the square profile is provided on a trailing part of the female portion and the dovetail profile is provided on a leading part of the female portion; and

a dovetail profile on a trailing part of the male portion is configured so as not to mate with the square profile on the trailing part of the female portion.

31. (New) The expandable tubular coupling of claim 1, wherein the first thread profile has a different geometric shape than the second thread profile.